of the final agency decision. Each motion for reconsideration shall be accompanied by a brief clearly setting forth the points of fact and of law relied upon in support of said motion. The Judicial Officer, in his discretion, may hold a hearing on the issues raised by the motion.

§ 956.25 Modification or revocation of orders.

A party against whom an order has been issued may file an application setting forth reasons which he believes warrant the modification or revocation of the order. The Recorder shall transmit a copy of the application to the Ethical Conduct Officer who shall file a written reply. A copy of the reply shall be sent to the applicant by the Recorder. The Judicial Officer, in his discretion, may hold a hearing on the issues raised by the application. Thereafter an order granting or denying such application will be issued by the Judicial Officer.

$\S 956.26$ Computation of time.

A designated period of time under the rules of this part excludes the day the period begins and includes the last day of the period unless the last day is a Saturday or Sunday or legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the close of business on the next business day.

§956.27 Official record.

The transcript of testimony together with all pleadings, orders, exhibits, briefs, and other documents filed in the proceeding shall constitute the official record of the proceeding.

§956.28 Ex parte communications.

The provisions of 5 U.S.C. 551(14), 556(d) and 557(d) prohibiting ex parte communications are made applicable to proceedings under these rules of practice.

PART 957—RULES OF PRACTICE IN PROCEEDINGS RELATIVE TO DE-BARMENT AND SUSPENSION FROM CONTRACTING

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AUTHORITY: 39 U.S.C. 204, 401.

SOURCE: 36 FR 11574, June 16, 1971, unless otherwise noted.

§957.1 Authority for rules.

The rules in this part are issued by the Judicial Officer of the Postal Service pursuant to authority delegated by the Postmaster General (39 U.S.C. secs. 204, 401; sec. 1, part 6 of the Postal Contracting Manual).

[36 FR 11574, June 16, 1971, as amended at 41 FR 19309, May 12, 1976]

§957.2 Scope of rules.

The rules in this part shall be applicable in all formal proceedings before the Postal Service pertaining to hearings initiated under sec. 1, part 6 of the Postal Contracting Manual.

[36 FR 11574, June 16, 1971, as amended at 41 FR 19309, May 12, 1976]

§957.3 Definitions.

- (a) The term *Department Head* means the head of any Department of the Postal Service or his representative for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of sec. 1, part 6 of the Postal Contracting Manual.
- (b) The term *General Counsel* includes his authorized representative.